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FORTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY:

January 21, 1862.

It has pleased Almighty God to remove from this Society, during the last year, several of its Vice-Presidents and other friends to whom it has been long and largely indebted. While we record their names with grief, we feel the inspiration of their example, which survives to animate the labors of the future, as well as present, officers and members of this Society. In General WALTER JONES, over whose remains the grave has but just closed, we mourn the decease of one of the wisest founders, and earliest Vice-Presidents of this Society; the author of its first memorial to Congress, in which the nation was invited, by words of profound thought and eloquence, and prophetic sagacity, to co-operate in a scheme, appealing alike to its sense of interest and duty, and unfolding in the future the most comprehensive and beneficial results. Among other distinguished friends who have since the last general meeting finished their earthly labors, should be named the Hon. JOHN McLEAN, of the Supreme Court, from the State of Ohio; the Hon. THOMAS S. WILLIAMS, Chief Justice of Connecticut, a Vice-President; Dr. DAVID M. REESE, an able and earnest laborer for many years in the cause; the Rev. JOSHUA NOBLE DANFORTH, D. D., of Newcastle, Delaware, and the Rev. HEMAN HUMPHREY,

of Massachusetts. For several years the efforts of Dr. DANFORTH were directed especially to the benefit of Africa and her children, and both he and Dr. Humphrey, by their writings and addresses, awoke the sympathy and elicited the contributions of many churches and of widely extended communities. They rest from their labors, but their works shall follow them. We have also to announce the death of Ex-President TYLER, Vice-President of the Virginia State Colonization Society. The report of the Colonization Society of Massachusetts mentions, with high and just commendation, the character and labors of Dr. Humphrey, as well as the loss to the cause in the death of DANIEL COLLINS, Esq., of Williamsburg, and Miss MARY T. TOWNSEND, of Boston, who made liberal bequests to the Society; while the New York Society laments the decease of several citizens of Liberia distinguished for their virtues and piety, the Hon. JOHN HANSON, ANTHONY D. WILLIAMS, Lieutenant Governor of that community before its independence, and the Rev. GEORGE L. SEYMOUR, whose explorations and extraordinary missionary labors deserve perpetual remembrance and an extended memorial.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Foreign Relations of Liberia have been extended and multiplied during the year, and, with one or two exceptions, have remained undisturbed. The purpose of demolishing the barricades among the chiefs near Cape Mount has been accomplished without any hostile demonstration, and the effect to commerce and order proved beneficial. Some of the interior chiefs appear dissatisfied, and difficulties among tribes of Fishmen near Cape Palmas, which were thought to be settled, became disturbed, and several cruel acts of the superstitious trial by poison having been perpetrated, President Benson proceeded against them with one hundred men, in the *Seth Grosvenor*, joined by others, and compelled them to keep the peace and pay the cost of the war. It is justly remarked by President Benson touching the murderous practices to some extent prevailing among tribes under the protection of the Republic:

"The time has come when such homicidal practices by natives living at least within the vicinity of our settlements should be promptly checked. If the government has the right and power to stop them, (which I presume no one will deny,) then it becomes a moral duty, and the neglect of such a duty involves moral delinquency and national guilt."

The honorable vindication of the character of Liberia by her government in the affair of the French vessel, the *Regina Cœli*, induces

the expectation that she will be able to show the world how unjustifiable was the recent attack of a Spanish man-of-war steamer upon the single man-of-war schooner in the harbor of Monrovia. This assault was not more against Liberia than an affront to the majesty of England, (since the men of an English man-of-war destroyed the Spanish slaver in the Gallinas,) and we may look to the power of Great Britain to maintain her own policy against the slave trade and her sense of the solemn treaty obligations of Spain. We cannot think that the magnanimity of Spain will permit her to attempt to coerce the young and feeble Republic of Liberia, (acknowledged as a free State by at least ten of the civilized powers of the world,) to cast aside her responsibility to God, to herself, and humanity.

In his last message President Benson observes, that it is impossible for Liberian merchants to succeed in honest competition in ports of the United States under the great pressure of existing discriminating duties; and it has been deemed right and proper to impose on the vessels and cargoes of the United States in her ports, similar discriminating duties. This is mutually disadvantageous, but of far greater injury to our citizens than to hers. The acknowledgment of the independence of Liberia, recommended by the President to Congress, would naturally be followed by other measures that would place the commerce, mutually, of that Republic and the United States upon a just basis.

RECAPTURED AFRICANS.

On the first of October of 1860, President Benson wrote:

"We have landed in the Republic within about two months nearly four thousand recaptives, for whom this government will have to render an account in the future."

The proceedings of the Board of Directors on the 24th of October of last year are before the public, and the gratification of the friends of the Society well known at the unanimity with which this Board had appointed Dr. James Hall their commissioner, to convey them to the government of Liberia, and to enter into such a contract with the latter, as shall carry them into full effect, to be binding from its date, but subject to modification if, on being hereafter submitted to the Board, there should seem to be occasion therefor.

The departure of Dr. Hall in the Stevens on the 1st of November, 1860, was announced in the last report. On his arrival he proceeded at once to negotiate a treaty with the Liberian Government satisfactory to its President and people, and having completed his homeward voyage, April 4th, was prepared to submit his work to the examination of this Board. Since this negotiation involves interests of great conse-

quence in many directions, its careful review would appear to be highly expedient.

The contract or treaty is submitted herewith to the Board of Directors. The Society was subsequently informed that the Government of Liberia had appointed G. W. S. and James Hall their agents to make their purchases and shipments in the United States.

In conformity with this arrangement the Financial Secretary opened an account directly with the Liberian Government, and has kept the funds belonging to the Government of Liberia separate from the funds of the Society, and held them subject to the order of the Secretary of the Treasury of the said government, and, as far as possible, in the drafts of the Treasurer of the United States upon the Assistant Treasurer in the city of New York.

The ship Nightingale, with 801 slaves, captured by the United States man-of-war sloop Saratoga, near Cabenda, was brought in charge of Lieutenant Guthrie on the 7th of May into the harbor of Monrovia. The sufferings of these people on their way from the point of capture, and the sickly and inevitably confined condition, within the narrow limits of the receptacle, on landing, produced unusual mortality.

On the 4th of July, President Benson wrote: "The recaptives landed in Liberia last and this year, now numbering over 4,000, are getting on astonishingly well. You would really be astonished could you witness the rapid improvement they have made in so short a time, and the people with whom nearly all have been placed and apprenticed treat them very kindly, as a general thing." In September last, one of the best ministers of the Gospel writes from the St. Paul's river: "I cannot but regard the whole matter in relation to these natives being brought among us as a wise and gracious act of Providence, designing them to be a blessing to us and we a blessing to them. Our churches and Sabbath schools are every Sabbath crowded with these people, and in a few years many of them will doubtless come to know and worship the true and living God. Many of those that were brought here a few years ago by the ship Pons are now respectable citizens, and members of the church."

COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

President Benson, in his last message, represents "that the exportable articles by our civilized communities, this year, will be more than two hundred per cent. in advance of the preceding year. Many of these articles have been for home consumption, and the actual exports over those of the next preceding year have been but about fifty

per cent.; and it is important to consider that in the production of articles of export the industry of the native tribes has its just share. According to the testimony of the Rev. C. C. Hoffman of Cape Palmas, who lately ascended the beautiful stream of the St. Paul's, the owner of one plantation had made 60,000 pounds of sugar the last year, and expected to make 80,000 pounds the present; another had made 40,000 pounds of sugar in one year.

Of the present industrial improvements, the Rev. Alexander Crummell is a most intelligent and unexceptionable witness. He contrasts the uncertainty and discouragements of the days of the colonial existence of Liberia, with its activity and improvement during the few years since its elevation to the rank of an independent Republic.

"Uncertainty gave place to certainty, and the colony began to flourish. The people felt that God had placed them to live there, and they put forth more efforts, with more hope and with more determination. We can see the change already. Take, for instance, the district of Bassa. When I went there, there was a large number of coffee trees planted, but there was but little coffee picked at that time. So it was in regard to other staples. They were neglected; but now the people are engaged in trade and commerce. In Liberia there are about 500,000 coffee trees planted, and the people are so industrious that their industry is beginning to tell upon the coffee market. At Bassa sometimes 100 bags are exported. The climate furnishes a fine field for its cultivation; and so profitable is it becoming, that many citizens begin to turn their attention to it; and there is now more coffee exported from Liberia than in any previous period. So with regard to sugar. Eight years ago one man, Mr. Richardson from New York, commenced its cultivation, and the result is, that extensive tracts are now under cultivation. There are at present nine or ten sugar mills in the Republic, and a large quantity of sugar is exported annually. Some farmers produce 30 or 40,000 pounds of sugar; others 50 or 60,000 pounds of sugar a year."

Of cotton the Republic has produced less; but among the neighboring native tribes it is produced, and to some extent manufactured cotton cloths woven into narrow strips, durable and dyed, are sold in the market on the coast. Some of the natives, says Mr. Crummell, have brought down from four to five thousand pieces of this cloth, 3 to 3½ feet in width and 6 long, at one time. 200,000 of these cloths are reported as sent from Lagos to Brazil in one year, and probably 500,000 pounds of cotton are exported annually in this way from the west coast of Africa. It is clearly shown that Africa is capable of producing a great supply of cotton, and most of the twelve English steamers that each year successively visit Lagos and other African ports return with hundreds of bales of cotton to England. Yet at

present the palm oil trade is the great traffic of Western Africa, though but imperfectly developed. The imports of Monrovia were estimated at \$150,000 in 1859, and in 1860 at \$300,000, while the exports during the former year amounted to \$190,000, and for the year 1860 the exports from the whole Republic rose to between \$400,000 and \$500,000. Justly it is said by Mr. Crummell, that no equal number of colored men on earth have done as much for civilization and humanity as the people of Liberia.

We are indebted to an intelligent and ardent friend of the cause in Philadelphia, Wm. Coppinger, Esq., for the following statistics of English trade in Africa:

"In 1853 the export of palm oil from Lagos was 160 tons; in 1857 the declared value of this, with a few other articles, was £1,062,806. From Abbeokuta interior, a short distance from Lagos, the increase of raw cotton has been enormous. In 1852, nine bags or 1810 pounds were exported; in 1858, 1,819 bags, or 220,000 pounds; and in 1859, 3,447 bags, or 416,341 pounds. From the Island of Sherbro, near the northern confines of Liberia, a cotton trade has sprung up in six years to the value of £61,000 for the last twelve months reported. Sixty thousand tons of palm oil are estimated as sent annually from the western coast of Africa, and the quantity that reached Great Britain during the year 1859 was 804,326 cwt.

"The exports of British goods during the first six months of the three past years are stated as follows:

	1858.	1859.	1860.
To Gambia, Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast, British, - - -	£95,404.	£148,588.	£139,643.
To other parts of west coast of Africa, - - - - -	336,939.	344,710.	471,619.
Total - - - - -	432,343.	493,248.	611,262.

"This table shows an increase of nearly forty per cent. in quantity and value compared with 1859, and about fifteen per cent. in quantity and forty per cent. in value over 1858."

LIBERIA COLLEGE.

The attention of Ex-President Roberts has been wholly devoted to the erection of the college building. Thus he writes on the 3d of September, "but owing to the advanced state of the building season when we obtained permission to proceed in the work, no time was to be lost in getting up the walls and the roof on, to escape, if possible, the heavy rains of the approaching season. However, I am glad to

be able to inform you that the buildings are now far advanced to completion, and will be ready for inauguration, we hope, in the course of a couple of months. The main building is a fine structure, very commodious, we hope, in all its arrangements, and I trust will prove a great blessing to Liberia." We learn that some efforts are making to obtain voluntary donations for a library and cabinet of natural science for this college, and that a complete Edinburgh encyclopedia has been given to it by the Rev. Seth J. Arnold, of West Townshend, Vt., and a small but rare and valuable selection of minerals by the Rev. James J. Clark, now a missionary in Turkey. Since this Report was written, we learn that the Trustees of Harvard College have presented six hundred valuable volumes. In their last report, the Managers of the New York Society are pleased to say: "By the final decision of the Court of Appeals the liberal bequest of \$50,000, intended by our former President, Anson G. Phelps, sen., to aid in the endowment of this Liberia college, has been declared invalid, because no definite term was limited in which the \$100,000 was to be secured, and no permanent trustees named to procure the bequest and administer it. It is most gratifying to believe that the noble intentions of the will thus defeated for want of technical precision, will be held sacred by his children, and that if the college progresses and receives the proposed endowment, his liberal intentions will be realized by the institution."

EMIGRATION.

The disturbed state of public affairs since our last anniversary has served to check emigration. In May last, on the return of our commissioner, Dr. James Hall, from the ninth voyage of the Stevens, it was thought prudent to postpone our usual spring expedition, and obtain employment for the ship in Europe. Having been employed in Europe, and not having returned on the 1st of November, the John H. Jones was chartered by the Financial Secretary in New York, and on the 7th of that month sailed from that port with 42 emigrants, and stores to the value of forty thousand dollars, sent to the Liberian Government for the support of recaptured Africans. On the 24th of April the bark Edward, chartered by the firm of Johnson, Turpin & Dunbar, sailed from New York with seven emigrants from that city and Williamsburg, and four other persons, Messrs. Howard, a nephew of Mr. Turpin, George Brown, who went out to serve as engineer on the Seth Grosvenor steamer, and Messrs. Davis and Peacher returning to their home.

The following tabular statement exhibits the emigration during the past year :

By Bark Edward,	from New York,	April 24,	7 emigrants.
Teresa Bandall,	" Baltimore,	July 27,	1 "
Justice Story,	" Boston,	Aug. 10,	1 "
Brig John H. Jones,	" New York,	Nov. 7,	42 "
Bark Greyhound,	" " "	Dec. 28,	4 "
			<hr/>
			Total, 55

INTERIOR LIBERIA SETTLEMENT.

The Committee have neglected no proper means of establishing an interior settlement on the New Jersey uplands in Grand Bassa. Some progress has been made towards opening a road to the site, and in erecting one or more buildings for the accommodation of settlers. By a late arrival we learn that some twenty volunteers have taken possession. We have placed in the hands of our agent, C. S. De Randamie, upwards of \$2,500 worth of goods, and authorized him to use of the funds in his hands a thousand dollars more for the purpose of defraying the expenses of founding the settlement.

NEW COLONIES SUGGESTED.

The hope and purpose of multiplying Christian settlements on the coast of Africa has long been cherished by this Society; and it will be recollected that some years ago, this Board authorized the Executive Committee, should they consider it expedient, to send an agent to Lagos and the country of Yoruba for purposes of exploration. This purpose, for reasons deemed sufficient, has not been executed; but during the year the idea of planting a new settlement on the coast has attracted the especial attention of the Committee, and they directed a correspondence to be opened with intelligent friends of the cause, and information to be sought from all sources, as to the most eligible region to be chosen and the best means for accomplishing the purpose. No thought is entertained of neglecting Liberia, but rather of making the proposed settlement contribute to aid its commerce and other great interests. Valuable replies have been received from several gentlemen to whom inquiries have been addressed, and the subject may deserve the consideration of the Directors.

AGENTS AND TRAVELLING SECRETARY.

The Travelling Secretary has continued his careful and efficient labors during the year, but we refer to his own report for the inter-

esting details that have marked his various and important endeavors in our cause.

In the States of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, the Rev. Franklin Butler has prosecuted his zealous and faithful labors, and though the state of public affairs has checked the tide of most charities, with encouraging prospects for the future.

In northern Ohio the agency of the Rev. B. O. Plimpton has been earnestly conducted, and with a good degree of success. It is proper to say that the Committee have not thought it expedient to multiply agencies, in consequence of the dark and troubled condition of the times.

MISSIONS AND CIVILIZATION.

The great cause of African missions has made rapid progress during the year, and the whole land is well nigh encircled with the schools and churches and ministers of Christ. At Sierra Leone, Liberia, and on the Gold Coast, at Corisco, the Gaboon, the Cape of Good Hope, and other districts of Southern and Eastern Africa, seminaries or schools are established, from which native converts and instructed Christians are preparing to go forth and plant churches in that great wilderness, and turn the savage and idolatrous natives to God. Already the poor Africans on the rocks begin to sing—they shout from the tops of the mountains.

RECOGNITION OF LIBERIA.

The recommendation of the President of the United States to Congress that the independence of Liberia should be acknowledged, and that some plan for the colonization of free persons of color should be adopted, was considered a good reason for presenting a brief memorial to the National Legislature. A copy of this memorial the committee think proper to make a part of this report.

COLONIZATION OFFICE, Washington, January 1, 1862.

To the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY observe, with deep interest, that the President of the United States has, in his late message, recommended that the Republic of Liberia should be acknowledged as independent. They also notice his recommendation of some plan of colonization for free people of color in some climate congenial to them. It seems proper to represent that the American Colonization Society was organized in this

city in December, 1816, by eminent statesmen and philanthropists from both of the two great sections of the Union, in a spirit of good will towards free people of color and the African race; that they declared it to be their purpose to act in co-operation with our General Government; that from that Government they then received, and have since continued to receive, some countenance; that as the great field for their enterprise they selected Africa as the best home for the independent free national existence of black men; that Providence has remarkably prospered their endeavors, so that a Christian Republic has risen upon the western shores of that land, extending its possessions and jurisdiction nearly six hundred miles along the coast and over numerous and populous tribes of native Africans—a Republic animated and regulated by the elements of order, education, growth, and social improvement. Civilized and religious institutions have arisen and multiplied, the slave trade has been suppressed, and a Christian State of progressive power and unspeakable beneficence attracts the eye and thoughts of uncounted barbarians.

While many weighty considerations, social, political, and economical, point to Africa as the home for her exiled descendants, moral considerations show clearly that no other region of the world opens before free men of color such broad avenues to usefulness, happiness, and national renown.

These views of the statesmen and philanthropists who founded this Society were expressed in a memorial* to Congress during the first

* NOTE.—The late General WALTER JONES was the author of this first memorial to Congress, from which we present a few sentences:

"Your memorialists beg leave to suggest, that the fairest opportunities are now presented to the General Government for repairing a great evil in our social and political institutions, and at the same time for elevating, from a low and hopeless condition, a new and rapidly increasing race of men, who want nothing but a proper theatre to enter upon the pursuit of happiness and independence in the ordinary paths which a benign Providence has left open to the human race.

"These great ends, it is conceived, may be accomplished by making adequate provision for planting, in some salubrious and fertile region, a colony to be composed of such of the above description of persons as may choose to emigrate; and for extending to it the authority and protection of the United States, until it shall have attained sufficient strength and consistency to be left in a state of independence.

"It may be reserved for our Government—(continued these memorialists, in a spirit of prophetic sagacity)—the first to denounce an inhuman and abominable traffic, in the guilt and disgrace of which most of the civilized nations of the world were partakers—to become the honorable instrument, under Divine Providence, of conferring a still higher blessing upon the large and interesting portion of mankind benefitted by that deed of justice, by demonstrating that a race of men composing numerous tribes, spread over a continent of vast and unexplored extent, fertility and riches, known to the enlightened nations of antiquity, and who had yet made no progress in the refinements of civilization; for whom history has preserved no monuments of art or arms; that even this hitherto ill-fated race may cherish the hope of beholding at last the orient star revealing the best and highest aims and attributes of man. Out of such materials to rear the glorious edifice of well ordered and polished society, upon the foundations of equal laws and diffusive education, would give a suffi-

year of its existence, and have been prosecuted by it since, with inadequate means, but earnest zeal and energy. The experience of the Society has demonstrated the ennobling power of liberty—that high inducements prompt to high achievements; and thus far has Liberia risen in character and hopes, because so grand a prospect has spread out before her, and she has stood unchecked and unembarrassed by the competition of powerful civilized nations. She occupies a country exhaustless in resources, and there is nothing to impede her growth. To say nothing of her gold and other mineral productions, the soil of Africa is well adapted to the culture of coffee, cotton, the palm tree, and the sugar-cane, and all the rich and varied productions of tropical climates.

But the most precious fruits of the enterprise of this Society are to be seen in the moral and intellectual power of the men of Liberia.

There is little prospect of securing a permanent home for a large number of our people of color on this continent, or the adjacent islands; nor in any other country than Africa does their future for happiness, security and political independence appear inviting. Liberia will naturally secure the sympathy of the more powerful civilized nations—from her remoteness she will have little cause to fear oppression—and deriving high advantages from their friendly intercourse, she will be disposed to reciprocate them.

The Executive Committee are, then, confirmed in the views of the Fathers of the American Colonization Society, and see with pleasure the attention of Congress invited by the President of the United States to the interests they involve. These interests are to freedom, humanity, commerce, civilization, and religion, immense. The commerce of Africa already attracts the attention of many nations, and when her people shall be taught her resources, and be trained to habits of civilization, she will become one of the richest marts of the world. Thus all our benevolence towards her children will be rewarded—their afflictions converted into blessings, and Africa and America rejoice in mutual benefits under the benign Ruler of Nations.

The Committee are well persuaded that the multiplication of Christian settlements of free colored people on the coast of Africa,

cient title to be enrolled among the illustrious benefactors of mankind; whilst it afforded a precious and consolatory evidence of the all-prevailing power of liberty, enlightened by knowledge, and corrected by religion. If the experiment, in its more remote consequences, should ultimately tend to the diffusion of similar blessings through those vast regions and unnumbered tribes, yet obscured in primeval darkness, reclaim the rude wanderer from a life of wretchedness to civilization and humanity, and convert the blind idolater from gross and abject superstitions to the holy charities, the sublime morality and humanizing discipline of the Gospel, the nation or the individual that shall have taken the most conspicuous lead in achieving the benignant enterprise, will have raised a monument of that true and imperishable glory founded in the moral approbation and gratitude of the human race, unapproachable to all but the elected instruments of Divine beneficence—a glory with which the most splendid achievements of human force or power must sink in competition, and appear insignificant and vulgar in the comparison."

and especially that an annual appropriation to aid the removal and support of such persons in Liberia, will result in great benefits to those people and to the United States. And for these great ends the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society will ever pray.

R. R. GURLEY, Cor. Sec. A. C. S.,

WM. McLAIN, Financial Sec. A. C. S.,

S. H. HUNTINGTON, of the Ex. Committee.

Since 1776, a year memorable for the Declaration of American Independence, and in the British House of Commons for the first motion for the abolition of the African slave trade, Divine Providence has been moving in various ways and by various agencies to improve and elevate the destiny of the African race. From that day to the present, this great idea has occupied the thoughts, moved the purposes, inflamed the eloquence of the good and the wise, the orators, statesmen, and philanthropists of England, France, America, and other civilized nations of Europe. No subject, perhaps, ever wrought more generally or profoundly in the reason, conscience and hearts of men.

This idea of vast benevolence, operating in all directions, and for the sublimest ends, animated the minds and stimulated the endeavors of the founders of this Society. In the first memorial addressed to Congress, (from the pen of the late General Walter Jones,) and in the able letter of General Robert Goodloe Harper, published in the first Report of the Society, the scheme of African Colonization is exhibited in no mean proportions, but as comprehending nations and ages and their endless improvements.

Constitutionally and wisely limited, in action, to free persons of color, emigrating with their own consent, the soul and sympathy of this Society embraces two continents and two races of men, nor has it failed to hope and believe that this nation, so great, so free, will yet deliver and bless and exalt African nations most barbarous, depressed and enslaved.

From such purposes and hopes, penetrating the soul of this Society, has gone forth a mighty and increasing power to move those who have largely shared in the government of this country, and disposed them to co-operate in the consummation of the grandeur of the enterprise.

For what has our great Creator given us existence and cast his smile upon us, revealed to us his will and his Gospel, made us acquainted as a nation with one quarter of the world and its many millions, torn and plundered and buried in darkness, but that we should consider their miseries, and stretch forth our hands for their deliverance.

Well may it be for us as a nation to consider that the present time may prove a key to open the divine purposes of wisdom and grace in the experience of America and Africa for the last three hundred years.

The gradual and voluntary separation of the races inhabiting these two countries is clearly beneficial, and it is equally clear that in Africa herself her children can find the most congenial and inviting home. Liberia rises a star of promise to the race. There, says the last report of the Massachusetts Society, "they have a republican government, with all our provisions for the security of freedom. There we cannot doubt they will find the most acceptable and advantageous field of labor for themselves, for their posterity, for their race, and for mankind."

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Forty-fifth Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society was held in the Hall of the House of Representatives on the evening of the 21st January, 1862, at seven and a half o'clock, when the Hon. J. H. B. LATROBE, President of the Society, took the chair.

Prayer was offered for the blessing of Almighty God on the meeting and the cause, by the Rev. JOHN MACLEAN, D. D., President of Princeton College.

The Corresponding Secretary read extracts from the Annual Report, which afforded reason for encouragement to the friends of the Society.

The President then proceeded to address the Society in an able and eloquent manner, as follows :

*Members of the American Colonization Society,
Ladies and Gentlemen :*

Never, perhaps, since Finley, in 1816, proclaimed that "he knew the scheme of African colonization was from God," has the anniversary meeting been called to order with more profound emotion than is now felt by the presiding officer. Nor does he doubt, in the least, that his hearers participate in his feelings.

The great statesmen who launched the ship of our cause, at the instigation of the New Jersey clergyman—Jefferson, Madison, Randolph, Harper, Mercer, Clay—confided it at once to the philanthropists who have since plied its oars and trimmed its sails, as with varying speed, it has pursued its way under a summer sky and upon placid waters ; and the periodical records of the voyage have been heretofore, almost always, illuminated, richly as a missal of old times, with the gay colors and the golden tracery which hopeful enthusiasm spread upon their pages with a lavish hand, in these halcyon days of prosperity and peace. But now, the same ship, to pursue the simile, though still keeping its course, presses onward through angry waves and beneath a threatening heaven. The thunder of artillery, the clangor of trumpets, the roll of drums, the clash of steel, are echoing on all sides ; and were the narrative of its progress to embrace the current events of cotemporary history, it would contain many a sad episode of battle and death,

with all the miserable accompaniments of civil war. That it lives in such a sea, and amid such surroundings, stauncher than ever, is alone conclusive proof of the divinity of its origin.

The early advocates of African colonization looked to it as a means of improving the condition of the free people of color, morally and politically; of separating them from a contact with the slaves, that was prejudicial to both parties; or of civilizing and christianizing Africa, according to their respective stand-points.— But it does not appear that any of them, even among the statesmen we have named, appreciated the great truth on which, in fact, the whole scheme depended for success, and which was, that *“two free races, between whom amalgamation, by intermarriage, was impossible, could never occupy the same land, in peace, on terms of social and political equality.”* This, which may be regarded as a fixed and absolute law of races, has been gradually and slowly developing itself in this country, and in this connexion, during the last forty years. There was little or nothing in 1816 to suggest it. History, which amply illustrates it, was a sealed book, whose teachings were valueless, simply because no one turned to its pages to discover them. The population of eight millions, then, was so small, in comparison with the extent of our country, that the latter was assumed to be, for all practical purposes, illimitable.— But when the census of 1850 gave a population of 23,000,000, and that of 1860 a population of 32,000,000, to become, upon the data furnished by eight decennial enumerations, 100,000,000 in 1900, and upwards of 200,000,000 in 1930, this law of races, with its inevitable consequences, became so obvious that it could no longer be overlooked. It was to provide for its operation, to be prepared for the exigency of the exodus of a whole people, that the scheme of colonization, requiring, in this instance, patient labor, supported by faith and hope, to mature it, came into existence five and forty years ago, and that Liberia, afterwards, assumed its place among the nations; and to Him who filled the mind of Finley with the plan, who softened the hearts of those whom he invoked to aid him, and who has since strengthened the weak hands which have labored in the cause, be ascribed the honor and the glory.

Three years ago, from this platform, the present speaker ventured to use these words: “Ceasing to be ignored by the politicians of the day, philanthropy shall yet be thanked by statesmanship for what it has accomplished on the coast of Africa.” The prediction has already been, to some extent, fulfilled; and public men, amid all the excitements of the hour, are even now studying plans of colonization, with a view of providing new homes for those who, as was said on the same occasion, “must go somewhere.” The times have forced the question upon them even earlier than was anticipated.

But, as with inventors, so it often is with politicians. Ingenuity exhausts itself in reinvention; and old and discarded things are apt to be adopted as original, because investigation has been postponed until the urgency of occasion has prevented it from being

thorough. Thus, at present, colonization in the West Indies, colonization in Central America, colonization in South America, are being discussed and urged, when each of these schemes has, years ago, been examined, weighed, and abandoned. Colonization in the Territories of the United States has been already tried, and with results too, that ought to be eminently suggestive; for the Indian transplanted by us beyond the Mississippi has, long since, required agents to protect him from the intrusion of the white man; and many a longing eye is being cast, from beyond the Indian border, upon the broad prairies and the tall forests, where the descendants of the original possessors of the whole land are feebly endeavoring to protract the term of an existence which is rapidly drawing to its close.

As it is with the home of the Indian beyond the Mississippi, so will it be with every spot on the American continent, and with every adjacent island on which the white man can live and thrive; and to establish a free colored people upon either continent or island will be but to bequeath the struggle of races to a future generation, when, the numbers being greater and the enmity more bitter, while the area of the strife remains the same, the contest will be fiercer, without the smallest change in the result.

And what will be this result? What but the extirpation of the weaker party or its removal to a home where the white man cannot follow it: not because of the intervening sea, because steam has bridged the sea, but because pestilence and death, with swords of flame, debar the white man's entrance. Africa is this home and Liberia is its portal.

It is true, that in speaking thus emphatically we are looking to the future; but then, is it not for the future that we are called upon to provide? The vice of the politicians of the day is that they deal with the present as though it were unchangeable. They legislate for thirty-two millions of people without reference to the decennial increase of thirty-four and a half per cent. They delight in make-shifts. They are enamored of emollients. They lose sight of the fact, that the arable lands of the United States are a fixed quantity, by far, very far, the greater part of which has long been taken up, while the population of the country must increase from thirty-two millions to two hundred and thirty-two millions in a life-time from to-day. They forget the effect that a redundant population must have upon wages, and ignore the idea that the latter can ever approach the European standard on this side of the Atlantic. The possible consequences of such a result, its influence upon the great questions now agitating the country, they have not yet considered. This is a problem they want the patience, just now, to attempt to solve. But, were they to rise from the level of politics to that of statesmanship, and provide for the future as well as for to-day, they would no more think of colonies of free people of color on this continent or its islands, than a pedestrian, in removing the stone that tripped him, would think of placing it where he must again fall over it.

Still, a great advance has been made. Colonization has, at last, become a matter for discussion in the halls of Congress; and, having truth for its basis, discussion must lead to its development, and America and Africa be benefited by the result.

There is one thing, however, to be carefully avoided in this connexion. The idea of compulsion must not be associated with the scheme. The law of races is of itself competent to bring about every desirable result. It is of daily and hourly operation. It is felt at firesides, when husband and wife, talking over their affairs, recognise its force and agree that they "must go somewhere." It is felt in the fields, in the streets, in all the occupations in which the free colored people have heretofore found employment, and in all of which there is now standing, at the colored man's elbow, a white man, ready to take his place whenever he shall leave it, even if he does not, without reference to his wishes, actually eject him from it. In this way it affects communities and becomes powerful in the building up of nations. Depending, as does the colonization scheme, upon individual action for its results, there must be nothing connected with it against which individual pride may revolt—for pride is every day overruling interest and sacrificing happiness. Emigration must be left to the conviction of the parties that they will do better in another land; and the silent working of the law of races, quickened by the pressure of a redundant population, will be all-sufficient, in due time, to make this conviction irresistible. There needs no other compulsion.

Nor are these the suggestions of mere expediency. They illustrate the constitutional provision upon which the American Colonization Society has acted from the beginning. It was then declared that our object was "the removal of the free people of color, *with their own consent*, to Africa"—words which cannot be too often repeated or too strongly emphasized, as explanatory of the scope and meaning of the colonization scheme; and which alike prohibit our becoming the agents of any plan involving compulsion, and pledge us to leave to the free man of color, so far as we are concerned, the time, the place, and the occasion of his emigration.—All we can do is to facilitate his going. To this end our means, although limited—insignificant, indeed, comparatively—have hitherto been competent. They have sufficed to found the colony and to support it in its earlier stages, and until it has become merged in the Republic of Liberia; and, if we restrict the use of them to Africa, it is not because we would interfere with the colored man's selection of a new home, but because it is our solemn conviction that in Africa alone can his people find a permanent abiding place. If lighthouses now crown the headlands of Cape Montserado and Cape Palmas, if churches and mission stations and school-houses now dot the coast from Cape Mount to the Cavalla, if steam sugar mills are at work on the St. Paul's and steam saw-mills are busy on the Junk, if the trade between the seaboard settlements is carried on in vessels built in the yards of Monrovia, and if a foreign commerce is already prosecuted by merchant shipowners

of Liberia, if all this has been done with such humble means as individual benevolence, and, sometimes, State appropriations have afforded, we may surely be permitted to say, without arrogance, that the blessing of the Almighty rests upon the choice which this Society has made of Africa as the future home of the free colored people of the United States.

But, unlike the strength of Milo, ours has not increased from day to day with our growing burden; and more efficient measures ought now to be adopted to promote the growth of the African Republic. Among the most important of these is the recognition by this country of the Government of Liberia—most important to the latter, and far, very far, from unimportant to ourselves.

The United States, whose laws and institutions the Liberians have honorably illustrated in Africa, whose great names are perpetuated where Monrovia looks down upon the deep, where Clay Ashland marks the progress of civilization in the forest, where Harper stretches along the three hills of Palmas, and by many a stream and town besides, the United States, alone almost among the leading nations of the world, withholds its recognition of the Government of Liberia; and this, too, when within the last few years we have actually been dependent upon Liberia for the ability to fulfil our treaties with reference to the slave trade: for, had Liberia refused, as she might have done, to receive the more than four thousand recaptured Africans, who in that time have been landed on her shores, what would have become of them? North and South, here, alike unwilling to take charge of them, a crowd of naked savages, they must have been thrown upon the coast, remote from their respective tribes, to become again the victims of the nefarious traffic from which they had just been rescued,—a proceeding so repugnant to humanity that the withdrawal of every vessel of war maintained by us on the coast would have been preferable to its adoption. In lieu of this, Liberia received them, and distributed them among her Christian homes, where, from the last accounts, they are fast becoming qualified to have homes of their own, in which, before long, the prayers of grateful hearts will invoke blessings upon those who, in teaching the recaptives the arts of civilized life, have made them an example of what may be done throughout all Africa by such agencies as our Society has established there.

Whatever, then, may be the result of the present agitation of schemes of colonization, whether it may end in a still further postponement of the whole subject, or in immediate action, there ought to be no difficulty on the part of the United States in recognizing the Government of Liberia, if only in acknowledgment of benefits actually derived from it.

And not only would the measure be just, but it would be expedient also. We are a nation of manufacturers as well as agriculturists. We want markets for the products of our inventive genius and mechanical skill. We have fought for them in China, and spent hundreds of thousands in obtaining them in Japan, while, at the same time, we voluntarily exclude ourselves from almost the only virgin

market in the world. We suffer our commerce to be burdened with a discriminating duty of twelve per cent. on all goods imported into Liberia from this country, from which the recognition of her Government would exempt us; and the consequence is, that the trade from the United States, which was formerly a direct one, is now carried on in English vessels, or in American vessels sailing from British ports. France is seeking the interior of Africa up the Senegal, and from the Mediterranean, England is making her way to it from Sierra Leone, and Cape Coast Castle, and Lagos, and up the Zambesi, while the United States, with the peculiar facilities, which its relations to Liberia naturally afford, of accomplishing a commercial destiny in this connexion, such as France or England can never win, is neglecting its opportunities until they may be lost to it forever.

That the trade here referred to may be appreciated as it should be, it may be stated, that while, in 1853, the export of palm oil from Lagos was but one hundred and sixty tons, its declared worth in 1857 was \$5,314,000. In 1852 the whole export of cotton from Abeokuta was nine bags, weighing about eighteen hundred pounds in all. In 1859 it was 416,341 lbs. The quantity of palm oil sent annually from the western coast of Africa is at least sixty thousand tons, exceeding in value the product of a whale oil-season. The quantity that reached Great Britain alone, in 1860, was 40,216 tons, while the exports of British goods to the West Coast amounted, for the first six months of the same year, to \$3,656,310, being a gain of forty per cent. on the export of 1858. The present extent of this trade is not so remarkable as its rapid increase, and the efforts which are making by European nations to encourage and obtain it.

But the pecuniary loss attending the destruction of our commercial intercourse with Africa, through Liberia, will not be the only result to be deplored should our present policy be persisted in.—Commerce has been the great agent of colonization from the days of the Phenicians down to the last arrival from Germany and Ireland in the harbor of New York. It is the only agent upon which reliance can be placed to accomplish the voluntary self-paying emigration to Africa, which will one day equal the emigration from Europe to America. With the necessity for such an emigration becoming daily more and more apparent, it is, unquestionably, as unwise as it is unstatesmanlike not to encourage, in every possible way, the commerce upon which, take place when it will, it must be dependant. Foster commerce with Liberia, and colonization will pay its own way, and our free colored population will pass from amongst us, voluntarily and quietly, in the natural order of events. Destroy this commerce—let its growth be hampered with restrictions—and Liberia must become a dependency of England, and we will have thrown into the hands of a rival all the advantages which Liberia yearns to accord to that land which, whatever the policy of the Government, is still the mother country of her people.

Nor are the means of transportation which commerce affords alone to be regarded in this connexion. Commerce assists in preparing for the reception of the immigrants, as it increases the population, multiplies the resources, and enhances the wealth of the cities where they land. The ship loads that now disappear in New York, as they are absorbed in the population that commerce has accumulated there, would have overwhelmed the village of New Amsterdam at any time within the first twenty years after its establishment on the island of Manhattan. There is a law that regulates immigration according to the capacity of the particular locality, and which will operate in the colonization of Africa, as it has done in all the colonizations that have preceded it. As has been shown, in the case of the recaptives recently landed in Liberia, this capacity of the Republic is now upwards of four thousand per annum, even where the immigrants are mere barbarians. But there is no doubt that a still greater number could have been received had they been of the character sent from the United States, provided with more or less means, and acquainted with the occupations and having the habits of civilization. Indeed, it may be assumed, that Liberia is now prepared to receive any number of emigrants which, under any circumstances, may be landed there, until the removal of our free colored population shall be gradually and satisfactorily accomplished. African colonization is destiny. The colonization of America was slower in the beginning, and yet what a people we have become! The colonization of California was more rapid, because the gold there was more attractive to the adventurous of the United States than the religious persecutions of the Old World were repulsive to the Pilgrim Fathers. The colonization of Africa will be more certain than either was in the first instance; because, while persecution might have ceased in Europe, and the gold become exhausted in California, the law of races and the increase of population are inflexible and uncontrollable, and must be enduring in their operation, and absolutely certain in their results.

In whatever aspect, then, recognition presents itself, it is commended to our favorable consideration. It obviates a discrimination which hampers commerce; it encourages kind feeling, which no nation, however great, is the worse for, from any other nation, however small; it provides for exigencies that are daily becoming more momentous: but, above all, and beyond all, it is an act just in itself, which the United States should no longer withhold from a people which exists through its philanthropy, is an illustration of its wisdom, and must be an agent in the fulfilment of the purposes of its God.

Nor, while we thus plead the cause of Liberia, is she speechless in her own behalf. It is no rock-bound coast, ramparted with ice, and under a howling sky, that receives the emigrant from America. The rich and luxuriant vegetation of the tropics comes down to the very borders of the sea; and although here, as elsewhere upon earth, comfort and competence are to be won by toil alone, yet a climate congenial to the nature of the individual gives to industry its reward through all the seasons of the rolling year. The colored man is here his own master. The law of races here operates in his favor. It is

his race which is the dominant one; and, dependant as this law is, in this instance, upon climate, and not upon accident, it is his race which must be paramount forever; and from Robertsport, under the shadow of Cape Mount, by Monrovia, where the first settlement was made, by Bassa, where rest the ashes of Buchanan, by Sinou, and Cape Palmas, and Cavalla, to the Rio Pedro, and from the coast line indefinitely towards the interior, are homes prepared for those whom circumstances, accumulating with the rapidity of the increase of an avalanche, will soon, measuring the time by the magnitude of the result, deprive of all freedom of choice, and leave no alternative but removal.

Members of the American Colonization Society: The chair, at the three anniversary meetings immediately preceding the installation of the present incumbent, was successively occupied by Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and Charles Fenton Mercer. The West, the North, and the South—Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Virginia—were represented by them. The wonderful orator, the great expounder of the Constitution, the accomplished statesman and philanthropist, were united in the support and advocacy of our cause. The inspiration of their presence is still around us. Were we permitted to see them in dim perspectives of the spirit world—could another Beatrice, to another Dante, point out their majestic shadows, as they listened to “the roll of the red artillery” and the tramp of the close columns of armed men which blasted the earth they had left green with the velvet garb of peace, would not Clay be seen, with impatient gesture, head thrown back, and foot advanced, and hand extended, filling the Senate house with the thunder of his voice? Webster, statuesque, with folded arms, darting, from beneath his massive brow, gleams of living fire, as he invoked a world’s vengeance on the violators of the Constitution? And Mercer, calm and sorrowful, gazing from one to the other, as he prayed, with clasped palms, that eloquence and wisdom so combined might save his country? And would we not then seek counsel, if we might, from these bold, true patriots and statesmen, as to our own course in the sad emergency of the times.—But the dream of the poet is beyond our realization, and we can only recall to memory what has passed away forever—walking, here on earth, by the light which experience has afforded us, turning neither to the right hand nor the left from the principles which have guided us from the beginning, and finding, in the faith of Finley, that “he knew the scheme was from God,” our warrant and our strength, in toiling through strife, as we have toiled in peace, to urge onward to a glorious end the grand cause of African Colonization.

The Rev. Dr. CYRUS MASON, of New York, then addressed the meeting, on our duty to the tropical races, and offered a resolution, which, as amended by the Rev. Dr. TRACY, is as follows:

Resolved, That the colonization of tropical Africa, by persons of African descent already civilized, opens a new and cheering prospect for the general welfare of the different races of men.

Address of Rev. Dr. Cyrus Mason.

Benevolence, like business, must submit its plans to the unbending laws of nature, and learn from physical science how to direct its operations; but pure benevolence turns naturally toward the light, and, by a divine ingenuity, is apt to conform its labors to these physical laws.

The mixed motives which suggested the Liberian Colony merged on the fact that a great physical law had been violated in transferring the natives of tropical Africa to our wintry climate, and that the error was to be corrected by sending them back. At an early day they began to be removed southward on this continent, but benevolence and social justice required their return to the land of their fathers.

Working under this law, Benevolence adapted to this colonization the favoring incidents, which have conspired to remove doubts, answer objections, and silence the clamors of those violators of nature who sought to absorb this tropical race by intermarriage with our own, and colonization of these people somewhere in tropical regions has become a national policy, while the most thoughtful and experienced find reasons of the highest order, reaching to the permanent welfare of all races of men, in favor of the Colony of Liberia.

While navigators crept along the shores of Europe each nation found the supply of its wants and the means of its increase only within its neighborhood; but when the ships of Portugal returned from India, and the ships of Spain from the Mexican Gulf, loaded with the rich products of the tropics, the nations of Europe began a new career of civilization, and looked to the interchange of conveniences and luxuries over the whole face of the earth. This career was restrained by their limited means of navigation, and still more by the indolence of the people of the tropics, and their unwillingness to prepare large supplies of the products of their soils and mines for the European market; but ships were rapidly multiplied, and large bodies of laborers and mechanics were carried to equatorial regions. But these colonists were subdued by the climate and demoralized and swept away by the habits of the barbarians; and the adventurers came to the natural and fixed conclusion that tropical products must be obtained by the labor of the equatorial races.

Following this conclusion, the adventurers tried various motives to induce regular and effective industry among the natives, and, failing in this, they resorted to enforcement. The slender race of Asiatics, which had entered America on the western side, sunk and perished under the toil exacted by their masters; and the hopes of Europe concerning the wealth of the New World were checked a second time.

Observation has shown that men from the equator become hardy by removing a few degrees farther to the north. Acting on this idea, the people of Guinea were brought to the borders of the Gulf of Mexico. They were found equal to the labor, and more effective on the northern than on the southern border. Now the abundance of

the tropics is poured into Europe, what had been the delicacies of the few—the sugar and its products, the coffee and the rice, the tobacco and the cotton,—became common to the whole people. The English colonies rose rapidly in the vicinity of this new labor. The Africans continued to be moved northward, and to enrich their masters; and in the newness of the country they were pushed so far into our winter climate that their labor soon became unprofitable.

The opening of the tropics and the mines, followed by the consequent inventions, has made the civilized world what it is in population and wealth. England employs on one tropical plant more people than England contained in the days of Elizabeth. The natives of the tropics do all the work of their own climate; they will continue to do it. Can they do it of choice? Can they do it cheerfully and hopefully? Can they make an even bargain for the fruits of their labor? Can they civilize?

The presence of the Caucasian race in controlling numbers among equatorial races has not profited those races, and has been equally degrading to our race. Can tropical products be had in abundance without the controlling presence of our race? This is the great question for solution; and in view of this question I have framed the resolution, "that the colonization of tropical Africa by Africans previously civilized in this country opens a new and cheering prospect for the general welfare of the different races of men."

The prospect is new; it is new in several of its features. It is a new fact that a body of tropical Africans, enjoying letters and arts, have established and administered a civil government, and maintained it by the fair and effectual administration of written laws and courts of record during a course of years without the controlling presence of men of our race. During thirty years past they have been steadily gaining civil strength and increasing in numbers, and during all that time they have required less and less of the directing care and control of this Society. They have made steady and hopeful progress in producing for the markets of the world such articles as we expect from tropical regions. They have scared away from six hundred miles of coast the malignant little gods who have always been the scourge of equatorial Africa. They have snatched from these gods many thousands of the natives, and brought them to the knowledge of the God of the universe, and led them to Christian worship. They have conquered a pestilential climate by clearing and draining their lands. They have built goodly houses and dwelt in them. They offer a home and protection to the converts brought by white missionaries from the pagan tribes behind them. Their schools produce engineers competent to project internal improvements, and mechanics able to execute them. Their merchants are respected in the civilized world. In all these matters they are steadily advancing, while the interference of our race in their affairs is not felt.

Is not this a new state of things in equatorial Africa? It is so, because these people were previously civilized in this country, and prepared to do what they are continuing without the presence of our race. They are colonists, with the means and motives for sending to

the markets of the world hereafter an unlimited quantity of tropical products. Will they do it?

There is a cheering prospect that they will accomplish a general welfare for their race and ours. The greatness of an undertaking is measured by its duration and capacity for expansion.

So far as we can now see, Liberia may endure. It has the elements of constancy. It stands acknowledged by many great nations as a nationality. England is pledged by Jamaica and by Sierra Leone to protect it. France is bound by the memories of St. Domingo to protect it. Our nation will defend it if she does not acknowledge Liberia.

If Liberia shall endure it is capable of indefinite expansion. Every step in its organization and construction can be repeated, and repeated more easily than it was begun. A voice from large portions of this country announces voluntary emancipation; a voice in this hall announces compensation to masters, and a voice from the free African people of these States will announce a voluntary exodus to the land which nature adapted them to occupy at their return from captivity in our frosty climate.

Each new traveller penetrating from the coast to the eastward reports hills and valleys and streams of water where the maps had laid down a desert. The colonist will follow the traveller. A highway shall be there. The people shall press onward to the sources of the Nile; and Egypt shall at last acknowledge a civilization from the west.

Let the stable nationality of Liberia be assured, and the problem of tropical civilization by tropical races will be solved, and tropical products will follow; for civilization generates the wants and wishes which impel the poor to labor and the rich to enterprise. A second colony can rise by the light of the first—can profit by our mistakes, and sooner rise to independence.

What has been accomplished in the tropics of Africa can be ultimately extended over the same belt around the globe. Ancient colonies were formed by those who escaped from the sacking of their cities, leaving their effects to the flames and bearing off the aged on their shoulders, and leading the young by hand. Their obscurity and remoteness from other nations was their safety; but our colonies will go forth with full supplies, secure in the chivalrous protection of strong nations, and ready to enter the market of the world with the first fruits of their industry.

Much of the tropical race has nearly served out its time under the direction of the Caucasian race. They have earned their outfit. Send them back to the land of the sun. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. They shall go out with joy and be sent forth with peace. For God hath made of one blood all the nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath appointed the bounds of their habitation, that by co-operative labor they should work out that good for the sons of men which they should seek after all the days of their life.

The Rev. Dr. PINNEY, Corresponding Secretary of the New York State Colonization Society, seconded Dr. Mason's resolution with very interesting remarks, and mentioned the presence of several Liberians; one of them, Mr. J. D. Johnson, a merchant, who had resided ten years in that country, and who, on invitation of the President, made a brief address, showing the great benefits received by those settled there; and of the earnest hope cherished in the Liberian Republic, that it would be encouraged and aided in sustaining its independence by our own Government. The entire propriety of the manner and matter of this address gave great satisfaction, and the facts stated were well adapted to give confidence in the efforts and reflect honor upon the young nation he represented.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Society tenders its thanks to the President for the able and opportune address delivered this evening, and requests a copy for the press.

The Society then adjourned to meet at the office of the Society to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

JANUARY 22, 1862.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment, the President in the Chair.

Rev. Mr. TRACY moved that the proceedings of this meeting be published entire.

The following Committee was then appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year: Messrs. Gregory, Beckman and Pinney, who subsequently reported the following list of

OFFICERS:

President:

HON. JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

Vice Presidents:

1. Gen. John H. Cocke, of Virginia.
2. Rev. Jeremiah Day, D.D., of Connecticut.
3. Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, of N. J.
4. Moses Allen, Esq., of New York.
5. Rt. Rev. Wm. Meade, D. D., of Virginia.
6. Rev. Jas. O. Andrew, D. D., of Alabama.
7. Hon. Elisha Whittlessey, of Ohio.
8. Hon. Walter Lowrie, of New York.
9. Stephen Duncan, M. D., of Mississippi.
10. Hon. Wm. C. Hives, of Virginia.
11. James Boorman, Esq., of New York.
12. Henry Foster, Esq., do.
13. Robert Campbell, Esq., of Georgia.
14. Hon. Peter D. Vroom, of New Jersey.
15. Hon. James Garland, of Virginia.
16. Hon. Willard Hall, of Delaware.
17. Rt. Rev. James H. Otey, D. D., of Tenn.
18. Gerard Ralston, Esq., of England.
19. Thomas Hodgkin, M. D., of England.
20. Rev. E. Burgess, D. D., of Massachusetts.
21. Thomas R. Hazard, Esq., of Rhode Island.
22. Thomas Massie, M. D., of Virginia.
23. Gen. Winfield Scott, U. S. A.
24. Hon. L. Q. C. Elmer, of New Jersey.
25. James Rally, Esq., of Mississippi.
26. Rev. G. W. Bethune, D. D., of New York.
27. Rev. W. B. Johnson, D. D., of S. Carolina.
28. Rt. Rev. C. P. McIlvaine, D. D., of Ohio.
29. Hon. J. B. Underwood, of Kentucky.
30. James Lenox, Esq., of New York.
31. Rev. Joshua Soule, D. D., of Tenn.
32. Rev. T. C. Upham, D. D., of Maine.
33. Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio.
34. Hon. Thomas W. Williams, of Conn.
35. Rev. John Early, D. D., of Virginia.
36. Rev. Lovick Pierce, D. D., of Georgia.
37. Hon. R. J. Walther, of New Jersey.
38. John Bell, M.D., of Pennsylvania.
39. Rev. Robert Ryland, of Virginia.
40. Hon. Fred. P. Stanton, of Kansas.
41. Rev. Nathan Bangs, D. D., of New York.
42. Hon. James M. Wayne, of Georgia.
43. Hon. Robert F. Stockton, of New Jersey.
44. Hon. Edward Everett, of Massachusetts.
45. Hon. Washington Hunt, of New York.
46. Hon. Horatio Seymour, do.
47. Hon. Joseph A. Wright, of Indiana.
48. Hon. Jos. C. Hornblower, of New Jersey.
49. Hon. George F. Fort, do.
50. Gen. John S. Dorsey, do.
51. Hon. Ralph I. Ingersoll, of Conn.
52. Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., Conn.
53. Hon. Joseph E. Ingersoll, of Penn.
54. Hon. Edward Coles, of Penn.
55. Rev. Howard Malcom, D. D., of Penn.
56. Rev. J. P. Durbin, D. D., of N. Y.
57. Edward McGehee, Esq., of Mississippi.
58. Thomas Henderson, Esq., do.
59. Daniel Turnbull, Esq., of Louisiana.
60. Hon. Thomas H. Seymour, of Conn.
61. Hon. Samuel F. Vinton, of Ohio.
62. Rev. O. C. Baker, D. D., of N. Hampshire.
63. Hon. William Appleton, of Massachusetts.
64. Rev. E. S. James, D. D., of N. J.
65. Rev. Matthew Simpson, D. D., of Ind.
66. Rev. Levi Scott, D. D., of Delaware.
67. Rev. R. R. Gurley, of D. C.
68. E. R. Alberti, Esq., of Florida.
69. Hon. J. J. Ormond, of Alabama.
70. Hon. Daniel Chandler, of Alabama.
71. Rev. Robt. Paine, D. D., of Miss.
72. Hon. J. J. Crittenden, of Kentucky.
73. Rev. R. J. Breckenridge, D. D., of Ky.
74. Solomon Sturges, Esq., of Illinois.
75. Rev. T. A. Morris, D. D., of Ohio.
76. Henry Stoddard, Esq., of Ohio.
77. Rev. E. R. Ames, D. D., of Illinois.
78. Rev. James C. Finley, do.
79. Hon. Edward Bates, of Missouri.
80. Hon. John F. Darby, do.
81. Rev. N. L. Rice, D. D., of New York.
82. Hon. J. B. Crockett, of California.
83. Hon. H. Dutton, of Connecticut.
84. David Hunt, Esq., of Mississippi.
85. Hon. George F. Patten, of Maine.
86. John Knickerbacker, Esq., of New York.
87. Richard Hoff, Esq., of Georgia.
88. Henry M. Schieffelin, Esq., of N. Y.
89. W. W. Seaton, Esq., of D. C.
90. James Fulton, Esq., of New York.
91. Rev. John Maclean, D. D., of N. J.
92. Richard T. Haines, Esq., do.
93. Freeman Clark, Esq., of Maine.
94. William H. Brown, Esq., of Illinois.
95. Hon. Ichabod Goodwin, of N. H.
96. Hon. John Bell, of Tennessee.
97. William E. Dodge, Esq., of New York.
98. Rev. John Wheeler, D. D., of Vermont.
99. Solomon Sturges, Esq., of Illinois.
100. Hon. L. H. Delano, of Vermont.
101. Robert Ives, Esq., of Rhode Island.
102. Rev. Thomas De Witt, D.D., of New York.

The Society then adjourned to the third Tuesday in January, 1863.

LATEST FROM LIBERIA.

Intelligence is received by the brig *Ann*, also advices by the English Steamers, to December 7. We have before us the Message of President Benson, which we shall early publish entire. The *Liberia Herald* of the 20th of November, contains a very full and spirited account of the attack made by a Spanish steamer on the Liberian armed Schooner *Quail*, in the harbor of Monrovia, and the gallant repulse she suffered from that vessel, and the fortress, manned by the Liberians, on the Cape.

We copy the following condensed statement from the *New York Journal of Commerce* of the 5th instant.

"Gov. Hill, of Sierra Leone, was at the time absent at Madeira. He returned early in October and sent Captain Smith, in Her B. M. Steamer *Torch*, to Monrovia to express to President Benson the friendly feelings of Her Majesty's Government. The *Torch* arrived at Monrovia, October 17, and returned next day to Sierra Leone.

"On the 14th of November, Her Majesty's Steamer *Falcon*, Captain Kenenge, arrived at Monrovia, and was authorized to assure the Liberian Government of the sympathy and friendly feelings of the British nation. On the 19th of November, the President entertained Captain Kenenge and several of his officers, at dinner, with several distinguished citizens. Toasts were given in honor of the Queen, of the President, of Captain Kenenge, and others. Captain Kenenge and his officers seemed much pleased with their visit to Monrovia, which would have a tendency to strengthen the friendly relations existing between the two countries. The *Falcon* would remain several days longer at Monrovia.

"The Governor of Sierra Leone and the English squadron are, without doubt, instructed by the English Government to aid President Benson in case of any further attack by the Spaniards. Additional armament had been placed on board the *Quail*, and the Fort on Cape Mesurado had been strengthened by several pieces of heavy ordnance, and a masked battery under the Cape.

"In view of these facts, and considering that Liberia was founded by American philanthropy—Henry Clay being among the foremost—that its first ship of emigrants in 1819 was convoyed over by the United States sloop-of-war *Cyane*, by order of President Monroe, and that it has had the friendly aid of our navy under every succeeding President to the present day—would it not be well and desirable for our government to send forthwith, as a present, to the aid of Liberia, one of our steam gunboats, to repel these Spanish slavers, and to sustain this young nation, which has emanated from our own land."

Nothing could be more expedient, wise, or humane than the gift by the United States of a small armed steamer for her defence, and the suppression of the slave trade.

Letter from the U. S. Agent.

MONROVIA, November 27, 1861.

REV. AND DEAR SIR :

The brig ANN, of New York, sails to-morrow, will touch at Cape Palmas, and thence proceed immediately to the United States. Although I cannot now write to you as fully as I would wish, yet I trust a few lines will not be unacceptable, especially as it is not long since I had the pleasure of writing more at length.

I am happy to be able to say that a kind and watchful Providence still continues to guard the interests of this young, and comparatively feeble nation. The dreadful attack from the hostile Spaniards is yet in the future, and not unlikely may be indefinitely postponed. Independently of the very tangible and rather destructive evidence which the government of Liberia gave the Spanish steamer, on the 11th September, of their readiness and ability to repel any such attack upon them as was then made, it is not at all improbable that they may have heard of the very active part which Great Britain has taken in the affair. So soon as it was known at Sierra Leone, His Excellency the Governor of that Colony, dispatched Her B. M. Steamer, the Torch, to come at once to the aid of the Liberians, and, on her return, the Falcon took her place, and has been lying for nearly a fortnight in our roads. The utmost vigilance is kept up on the part of the military and naval forces of the country, and there is cause to believe that should another attack be made, the invader, to use the language of one of the officers of the Falcon to me, may find himself "blown to pieces."

Hostilities of a very serious character have been prevailing among the interior tribes for some time. Towns have been burned, murders committed, and many captives taken. The Liberian Government immediately interposed, and one man, quite an intelligent native, reared in the family of one of the early settlers, and supposed to be a staunch ally, and friend of the republic, has been arrested and is now in jail, after an examination which it is believed will bring him before the grand jury, and may end seriously. Of his complicity with the head-men and ringleaders of these wars on innocent allies of Liberia, there seems to be strong evidence.

My fears entertained and expressed sometime since of a great scarcity of food, have proved as yet groundless. Notwithstanding the failure of your *Mary C. Stevens* at the time we all expected her, and the fact, in addition, that the visits of American vessels, with full cargoes, are becoming more and more rare, yet there has been no want. Foreign provisions have been higher, but our native breadstuffs have been plentiful, and so far as I can judge the crisis has passed, and there will be no want of any of the real necessities of life in Liberia. To God be all the praise in the first place, and next a meed of praise must be awarded to our farmers, who so industriously keep us supplied with potatoes, and cassavas, and eddoes, and beans, plantains, and bananas and scores of the other good things which this wonderfully prolific soil so luxuriantly produces.

The liberated Africans are doing well. The Liberian government are carrying out, in good faith, their contract with your Society, and I take pleasure in giving the required certificates to that effect. These people improve fast, and I am every day more and more convinced that to efficiently benefit the

recaptured African he must be sent to Liberia. Here is found every possible inducement to him to improve, and here, if any where in Christendom, he can become a MAN.

My health which had been very good for some months, has suffered again lately. Fevers and chills made their periodical visit, and gave me a shaking, but I am again better.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am, Rev. and Dear Sir, yours most respectfully,

JOHN SEYS.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

From the Liberia Herald of Nov. 27th.

On the evening of the 17th of October, H. M. S. steamer *Torch*, Commander Smith, arrived in our harbor, being dispatched by Governor Hill, of Sierra Leone, who, having just returned from Maderia, had heard of the Spanish aggression. Commander Smith expressed the sympathy of his Excellency Governor Hill, and the friendly feelings of H. B. M. government. The *Torch* left for Sierra Leone on the evening of the 18th.

On the 14th inst., H. M. S. steamer *Falcon*, Captain Heneage, arrived in port. The steamer bearing the cross of St. George, not known by some of our citizens, created some excitement; but the vessel was soon ascertained to be a friendly one.

Captain Heneage has manifested much interest for the welfare of Liberia, as also his officers have; and he has been authorized to assure this government of the sympathy and friendly feelings of the British nation.

On the 19th inst., the President entertained Captain Heneage and several of his officers at the Mansion, together with a number of our distinguished citizens. Toasts were drank in honor of Her Britannic Majesty, the President of Liberia, the Captain of the *Falcon*, and many others.

Captain Heneage and his officers seem much pleased with their visit to Monrovia, which will have a tendency to strengthen much the friendly relations already existing between the two nations. The *Falcon* will remain in our harbor several days longer.

INTELLIGENCE.

A WANT OF THE HOUR.—The slaves who have come within the lines of our advancing armies on our eastern seaboard, and who, as contraband of war, are protected by our forces, present an open and interesting field for evangelizing effort. They need Christian counsel and instruction, and the means of learning to read the word of God. Many of them show great readiness in acquiring the rudiments of an education; others in increasing what knowledge they already have, and all appreciate kindness exhibited by those interested in their welfare. It seems probable that still larger numbers of this class will be thrown upon the benevolence of Christians during the progress of the present war, and we cannot doubt that a true love for their souls, united with a practical philanthropy, will labor to elevate and save these our brethren.

The Society has already sent to those at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, and Port Royal, South Carolina, above 60,000 pages of its Pictorial and Infant Primers,

and other publications adapted to their state of intellectual advancement, and will be most happy to use all means put at its disposal for their spiritual welfare.

During past years the Society has circulated by colportage millions of pages of these publications among the colored people of the South, accompanied with faithful effort for their salvation, and with undoubted evidence of blessing. The same work they would continue among those now accessible, as far as means are furnished.—*American Messenger*.

From the Colonization Herald.

CONVICTION OF A SLAVER.—The conviction and sentence of Gordon, late captain of the slaver *Erie*, constitutes a new epoch in the history of the African slave-trade. More than fifty years ago the Government of the United States denounced that traffic as piracy, and framed laws for its suppression by severely punishing those found engaged in it. Those enactments sufficed to suppress the traffic until the enhanced price of slaves greatly increased the temptation to engage in it, and the lax moral sentiments of the nation on the subject gave assurance of impunity in case of detection. A few years ago the offence was made capital. It has happened that no case of the infliction of capital punishment for having been engaged in the slave-trade has occurred in this country.

Another spirit now rules in these affairs. The government has in a few months done much toward suppressing the trade as to American ports and shipping. The crowning act of this triumph is the conviction in the United States court at New York of a noted slave trader, and his sentence to be hung on the seventh day of February next.

When the *Erie* was seized last August, about fifty miles from the coast of Africa, she had on board eight hundred and seventy-nine slaves, whom Gordon had taken on board at the Congo, destined for the Cuban market. The vessel was placed in charge of a prize crew, the negroes were taken to Monrovia, in Liberia, and the officers were brought to the port of New York. The identity of Gordon, and his active participation in the piracy, were established beyond a question.

LIBERIAN SUCCESS.—An intelligent and enterprising planter of Liberia, Mr. William S. Anderson, lately arrived in the bark *Cordelia*, with articles produced or manufactured by himself. The sugar, rated as prime grocery, which is a very high grade; the melado, molasses and syrup, were of excellent quality, and the coffee had no superior in the market. The cotton was deemed very good, and attracted much attention. These were but a part of his crop; the remainder he had shipped for England prior to leaving home. Mr. Anderson was born of free parents in Wilmington, Delaware, and removed to the young African Republic in the fall of 1852. His wife is a native-born Americo-Liberian, and accompanied him. He has again sailed for Liberia, taking with him, as his father sensibly remarks in a letter now before us, "his brother James and sister H. F. Rollins, with her husband and child. My son represents Liberia as in a prosperous condition; and it certainly offers greater inducements to the colored man desiring to emigrate than any other country. It has a genial climate, productive soil, and liberal institutions. It is one of two governments—the freest on earth—the American for the white, and the Liberian for the colored."

RECOGNITION NOT REPRESENTATION.—Ten influential Powers, including Great Britain, France, and Prussia, in the Old World, and Brazil in the New, have recognized the independence of Liberia. Several others have formed commercial treaties with her. Why should not the Government of the United States also acknowledge her nationality, and employ the customary means to secure a fair proportion of an enriching trade, and to open a boundless mart for our manufactures?

The recognition of an independent State does not necessarily imply representation. There are many nations which do not maintain persons in official characters at Washington or at foreign Courts; and we judge that when Liberia is received into the family of nations by our Government, it will appoint, should occasion require, such gentlemen to promote its interests amongst us as will be entirely acceptable to our authorities and people, and to the colored population. The only representative in Europe of this vigorous germ of African empire is Gerard Ralston, Esq., a well known and popular white citizen of this country, and a Philadelphian by birth, but who has resided for many years in London. Mr. Ralston serves the Liberian Republic with disinterested zeal and ability, and there are those on this side of the Atlantic who are willing, doubtless, to likewise devote their time, talents, and influence without fee or reward, save the consciousness of thus effectually promoting the welfare of a large portion of the human family.

THE NIGER.—The Rev. C. C. Hoffman, for several years a devoted missionary of the P. Episcopal Church at Cape Palmas, gives the following information in relation to the sources of this famous stream:

"I made a journey up the Cavalla river, into the interior, during last vacation (July.) Dr. Fletcher was with me. We went thirty miles beyond Bohlen, which is nigh one hundred miles from the sea, into the Diabo country—rich and beautiful for a settlement among those beautiful hills—pure cold water and healthy breezes. A native there told me that a river, called the Niger, flowed eastward from near the head waters of the Cavalla, in the Kong mountains, and that English goods were brought up the Niger from large vessels at the mouth. Here we have the river Niger. Now for the man to explore it, and meet Crowther at Rabba! I believe it can be easily done. The natives in our interior are very friendly."

BARK GREYHOUND FOR LIBERIA.—The firm of Yates & Porterfield fitted out this bark to leave New York Dec. 26, for Liberia. This opportunity was improved by Dr. James Hall to forward a supply of ammunition for the Liberia government, and by the Episcopal Missionary Committee to provide for the return to his field of missionary labors at Cape Palmas, of Mr. Thomas Toomay, and to send back to Liberia Mrs. Simpson, who came to the United States as a nurse to an invalid missionary, Miss Merriam. By the same opportunity the New York State Colonization Society, in behalf of the American Colonization Society, provided for the passage of four promising emigrants, viz: James Flanagan, thirty-two years of age; John Pendleton, fifty-two years of age; Wm. L. Page, twenty-eight years of age; Walter Colquhoun, thirty years of age. Two of these are attested as capable engineers, and one claims to be well acquainted with the processes of sugar culture and manufacture.—*Colonization Journal.*

RECOGNITION OF LIBERIA AND HAYTI.—Feb. 4. Mr. Sumner, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the appointment of Diplomatic Representatives to the republics of Liberia and Hayti.

Edward L. Pierce, agent of the Treasury Department at Port Royal, writes that, according to his best estimate, there are some eight thousand negroes on South Carolina territory now occupied by the forces of the United States. They are in great need of clothing.

RECEIPTS OF AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, From the 20th of December, 1861, to the 20th of January, 1862.

MAINE.		DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.	
By Rev. F. Butler, \$10—		Washington City—John P. Ingle, his	
Maine—A friend,	10 00	annual donation,	10 00
Saco—P. Eastman,	5 00	Miscellaneous,	1,414 36
Bath Colonization Society,	85 00		1,424 36
	100 00		
NEW HAMPSHIRE.		OHIO.	
By Rev. F. Butler—		By Rev. O. B. Plimpton—	
East Lempster—Reuben Roundy,	1 00	Mr. Rossman, \$2.50, C. Smith, \$5—	
VERMONT.		residence not stated,	7 50
By Rev. F. Butler—			
Franklin—Balance of collection of			
Cong. and Mite Societies,	2 25		
New Haven—Hon. Wm. Nash,	10 00		
	12 25		
MASSACHUSETTS.		FOR REPOSITORY.	
Northampton—Mrs. G. W. Talbot,	5 00	NEW HAMPSHIRE—Gilem—Rev.	
CONNECTICUT.		E. Adams, in full, \$5. Dover—	
By Rev. John Orcutt—		Capt. Moses Paul, \$2. Mount	
Glastenbury—J. B. Williams, Gov.		Fernon—J. A. Starrett, \$1,	6 00
Plummer, each \$5, E. A. Hubbard,		VERMONT—Millen—Giles Jackson,	
\$2,	12 00	in full,	2 00
Wallingford—E. H. Ives, \$3, J. Ken-		MASSACHUSETTS—West Cam-	
drick, E. M. Pomeroy, Israel Har-		bridge—Rev. Abiel Abbott, D.D.,	
rison, each \$2, F. Johnson, W.		deceased, in full, \$3.62. North-	
Martin, Samuel Simpson, Mrs. E.		ampton—Mrs. J. W. Talbot, for	
C. Dutton, Dr. Andrews, Mrs. A.		1862, \$1,	4 62
J. Hall, A. Hall, each \$1,	16 00	RHODE ISLAND.—Bristol—Benj.	
Collinsville—S. W. Collins,	10 00	Hall, for '62 and '63,	9 00
Canton—Canton Col. Society,	3 50	NEW YORK.—Rochester—Ebenezer	
	41 50	Ely, \$1. Hope—Mrs. S. Burch,	
PENNSYLVANIA.		\$5. Norwich—D. Butolph, for	
By Rev. O. B. Plimpton—		1862, \$1,	11 00
Wm. S. Crozier, \$5, Jesse Smith, \$5,		OHIO—Centerville—Rev. J. S. Belle-	
Conneautville, public collection,		ville, \$1. Twinsburg—Ethan Al-	
\$4.10, S. A. Thomas, J. Gage,		ling, \$1. Chagrin Falls—W. Lues,	
Mrs. W. S. Crozier, each \$3, Mr.		for 1862, \$1,	3 00
Davenport, \$2.50, Rich'd Boland,			
\$5, William Powers, \$2, Thomas		Total Repository,	98 62
Thomas, \$10, David Boland, \$2.50,		Donations,	328 85
Mr. McMillan, \$2, Caleb Gris-		Emigrants,	329 50
wold, \$3, Mrs. McDorsel, \$4, Wm.		Miscellaneous,	1,414 36
Cook, \$5, Albion public collec-		Freight and passage money of Ship	
tion, \$2, Hon. H. Butler, \$10—re-		M. C. Stevens, 2d voyage, 6,034 73	
sidence not stated,	61 60	Voyage to Londonderry,	5,367 72
		Voyage to Black Sea,	2,266 02
MARYLAND.			
Baltimore—Maryland State Coloniza-			
tion Society, for passage of emi-			
grants,	322 50		
			13,668 47
		Aggregate Amount,	\$15,682 80